

126124-4

IN THE SPECIFICATIONPlease amend Paragraph [0004] as follows.

[0004] A method for producing a 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]phenylaminoanthraquinone colorant composition comprises:

reacting a 4-halobenzoic acid with about 1 mole to about 4 moles of a halogenating agent per mole of said 4-halobenzoic acid to form a 4-halobenzoyl halide composition;

reacting in the presence of a first catalyst composition, said 4-halobenzoyl halide composition with biphenyl, in a solvent to form a 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]halobenzene composition; and

reacting in the presence of a second catalyst composition and an acid scavenger, said 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]halobenzene ~~1-[4-(4-phenylbenzoyl)]halobenzene~~ composition with a 1-aminoanthraquinone, in a reaction medium comprising a dipolar aprotic co-solvent, to form said 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]phenylaminoanthraquinone colorant composition.

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126124-4

Please amend Paragraph [0005] as follows.

[0005] In another embodiment of the disclosure, a method for producing a 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]phenylaminoanthraquinone colorant composition comprises:

reacting one mole of a 4-bromobenzoic acid with about 1.1 moles to about 4 moles of thionyl chloride per mole of 4-bromobenzoic acid to form a 4-bromobenzoyl chloride composition;

reacting in the presence of aluminum chloride, said 4-bromobenzoyl chloride composition with biphenyl in a solvent comprising nitrobenzene, to form a 1-[4-(biphenyl-4'-carbonyl)]bromobenzene ; and

reacting in the presence of an acid scavenger composition comprising potassium carbonate and sodium acetate, and a second catalyst composition comprising about 1 part of copper per part by weight of copper(I) iodide, said 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]bromobenzene ~~1-[4-(4-phenylbenzoyl)]bromobenzene~~ composition with a 1-aminoanthraquinone in a solvent comprising N,N-dimethylformamide, to form said 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]phenylaminoanthraquinone colorant composition.

Please amend Paragraph [0017] as follows.

[0017] The 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]halobenzene ~~1-[4-(4-phenylbenzoyl)]halobenzene~~ composition is reacted with a 1-aminoanthraquinone in the presence of a second catalyst composition, in a reaction medium comprising a dipolar aprotic solvent, to form a 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]phenylaminoanthraquinone colorant composition. An exemplary dipolar aprotic solvent is one selected from the group consisting of N,N-dimethylformamide, N-methyl-3-pyrrolidinone, N,N-dimethylacetamide, dimethylsulfoxide, 1,3-dimethyl-2-imidazolidinone, and sulfolane. Any mixture of the dipolar aprotic solvents mentioned hereinabove can also be used. In many embodiments, the reaction medium can also comprise an inert co-solvent, such as substituted and unsubstituted aliphatic and aromatic hydrocarbons, which are miscible with any of the dipolar aprotic solvents mentioned above.

126124-4

Please amend Paragraph [0019] as follows.

[0019] An acid scavenger is used in the reaction of 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]halobenzene ~~1-[4-(4-phenylbenzoyl)]halobenzene~~ composition with 1-aminoanthraquinone to trap the hydrogen halide by-product. The acid scavenger is used in an amount corresponding to at least one molar equivalent of the 1-aminoanthraquinone. The acid scavengers generally comprise carboxylate, carbonate, and bicarbonate salts of alkali metal and alkaline earth metals. The carboxylate salts have the general formula $M(\text{COOR}^1)_n$, wherein "M" is an alkali metal or an alkaline earth metal; R^1 is a monovalent alkyl group having from about 1 to about 6 carbons; and "n" is selected from 1 or 2. Examples of alkali metal and alkaline earth metal carboxylates include, but are not intended to be limited to lithium acetate, sodium acetate, potassium acetate, lithium benzoate, sodium benzoate, potassium benzoate, lithium propionate, sodium propionate, calcium acetate, calcium propionate, calcium benzoate, and the like. Examples of alkali metal and alkaline earth metal carbonates and bicarbonates include, but are not intended to be limited to lithium carbonate, sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, lithium bicarbonate, sodium bicarbonate, potassium bicarbonate, and the like. Any combination of the acid scavengers mentioned hereinabove can also be used. In a particular embodiment, an acid scavenger comprises potassium carbonate and sodium acetate

Please Amend Paragraph [0020] as follows.

[0020] The reaction of 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]halobenzene ~~1-[4-(4-phenylbenzoyl)]halobenzene~~ composition with 1-aminoanthraquinone can be carried out at a temperature of from about 50°C to about 200°C in one embodiment, and at a temperature of from about 100°C to about 170°C in another embodiment. The reaction is generally carried out for a period from about 12 hours to about 30 hours. In an embodiment, the reaction is carried out for a period from about 18 hours to about 24 hours.

126124-4

Please Amend Paragraph [0021] as follows.

[0021] In a particular embodiment, the general method described above can be used for preparing a 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]phenylaminoanthraquinone colorant composition using 4-bromobenzoic acid as the starting material. The method comprises: reacting one mole of a 4-bromobenzoic acid with about 1 mole to about 4 moles of thionyl chloride per mole of 4-bromobenzoic acid, to form a 4-bromobenzoyl chloride composition; reacting in the presence of aluminum chloride, said 4-bromobenzoyl chloride composition with biphenyl in a solvent comprising nitrobenzene, to form a 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]bromobenzene composition; and reacting in the presence of a second catalyst composition comprising about 1 part of copper per part of copper(I) iodide, said 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]bromobenzene ~~+ [4 (4-phenylbenzoyl)]bromobenzene~~ composition with a 1-aminoanthraquinone in a solvent comprising N,N-dimethylformamide, to form said 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]phenylaminoanthraquinone ~~+ [4 (4-phenylbenzoyl)]phenylaminoanthraquinone~~ colorant composition. In one embodiment, the nitrobenzene solution comprising the 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]bromobenzene composition can be advantageously used without any further processing, such as complete or partial removal of nitrobenzene, in the subsequent reaction with 1-aminoanthraquinone.

Please amend Paragraph [0022] as follows.

[0022] The 1-[4-(biphenyl-4-carbonyl)]phenylaminoanthraquinone ~~+ [4 (4-phenylbenzoyl)]phenylaminoanthraquinone~~ composition, prepared using the general method and the method described in the particular embodiment, is used as a valuable colorant for preparing a variety of colored thermoset and thermoplastic resin compositions. In one embodiment, thermoplastic resins that can be used for preparing the colored resin compositions is selected from the group consisting of polyesters, polycarbonates, bisphenol A polycarbonate, polyamides, polyimides, polyamideimides, polystyrenes, rubber-modified polystyrenes, acrylonitrile-containing polymers, polyarylene ethers, poly(2,6-dimethyl-1,4-phenylene ether) and any combination thereof.

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